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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/751,526	12/29/2000	Nandu J. Marketkar	42390P10081	2518

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EXAMINER

ALCALA, JOSE H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2827

DATE MAILED: 03/25/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/751,526

Applicant(s)

MARKETKAR ET AL.

Examiner

Jose H Alcala

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 October 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 and 25-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 8-10, 14-16, 25 and 26 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 11-13, 27-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5, 6, 7, 8.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group 1, Species 2 in Paper No. 10 is acknowledged.

Regarding applicant's argument that Species 1 and Species 2 are both part of the same species, the examiner agrees, and the claims readable (1-7,11-13,27-30) on that species are examined. Claims 25 and 26, are withdrawn from consideration because they are dependent of a non-elected and canceled claim. Examiner agrees with applicant in saying that claims 1 and 11 are generic to all the species.

2. Claims 8-10,14-16,25 and 26 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in Paper No. 10..

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-3,5-7,11-13,27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Henschen et al. (US Patent No. 3,651,432).

Regarding Claim 1, Henschen teaches an apparatus comprising: a first device (reference number 16) having one or more conductive areas (reference numbers 20,22,24) to form a portion of an electromagnetic coupler; and a socket (reference number 8) to mount the first device relative to a second device (reference number 2) having one or more conductive areas (reference number 6) to form the electromagnetic coupler.

Regarding Claim 2, Henschen teaches that the first device comprises a carrier (reference number 16) having the one or more conductive areas (reference numbers 20,22,24) for the first device.

Regarding Claim 3, Henschen teaches that the carrier (reference number 16) comprises a dielectric to form a portion of the electromagnetic coupler.

Regarding Claim 5, Henschen teaches that the socket comprises a connector (reference number 12) to electrically couple the first device to the second device.

Regarding Claim 6, Henschen teaches that the first device comprises a circuit board (reference number 16) and wherein the connector comprises an edge connector (reference number 17) to receive an edge of the circuit board of the first device.

Regarding Claim 7, Henschen teaches that the connector comprises one or more contact pins (reference number 12) to insert in the second device.

Regarding Claim 11, Henschen teaches an apparatus comprising: a base (reference number 8) comprising a connector (reference number 12), the connector to mount a first device (reference number 16) having one or more conductive areas (reference numbers 20,22,24) relative to a second device (reference number

102)having one or more conductive areas (reference number 6) to form an electromagnetic coupler.

Regarding Claim 12, Henschen teaches that the connector electrically couples the first device to the second device (See Figures 3 and 4).

Regarding Claim 13, Henschen teaches that the connector comprises an edge connector (reference number 17) to receive an edge of a circuit board of the first device.

Regarding Claim 27, Henschen teaches an apparatus comprising: a first device (reference number 16) having one or more conductive areas (reference numbers 20,22,24) to form a portion of an electromagnetic coupler; a second device (reference number 2) having one or more conductive areas (reference number 6) to form a portion of the electromagnetic coupler; and a socket (reference number 8) to mount the first device relative to the second device to form the electromagnetic coupler.

Regarding Claim 28, Henschen teaches that the first device comprises a carrier (reference number 16) having the one or more conductive areas (reference numbers 20,22,24) for the first device and wherein the carrier comprises a dielectric to form a portion of the electromagnetic coupler.

Regarding Claim 29, Henschen teaches that the second device (reference number 2) comprises a dielectric to form a portion of the electromagnetic coupler.

Regarding Claim 30, Henschen teaches that the socket (reference number 8) comprises a connector (reference number 12) to electrically couple the first device to the second device.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henschen et al. (US Patent No. 3,651,432) in view of Brodsky et al. (US Patent No. 5,197,888).

Regarding Claim 4, Henschen teaches all the elements of the invention as stated supra for claim 3, but fails to explicitly teach that the carrier is a flex circuit. Wong teaches a carrier (reference number 13) that is a flex circuit. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Henschen and Brodsky in order to have a flex circuit as the carrier, thus providing precise alignment and positioning between the circuit members.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following references teach some of the elements of the instant claimed invention: Goodman (US Patent No. 3,871,728), Hargett (US Patent No. 3,609,633) and Ammon et al. (US Patent No. 3,671,917).

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8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jose H Alcala whose telephone number is (703) 305-9844. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Talbott can be reached on (703) 305-9883. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3431 for regular communications and (703) 305-3431 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

JHA
March 24, 2003

David A. Zarnke
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